AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1 (Currently amended). A method for defining and implementing business processes comprising:

a) adding components to a process definition, including at least one task requiring user interaction, the task comprising a unit of work performed by a computer program;

b) defining interface elements for the task;

c) defining control flow between the components of the process definition;

d) submitting the process model to a process server for execution of the control flow and submission of the at least one task for end users via the defined interface elements.

2 (Original). The method of claim I, further comprising:

e) defining data flow between components of the process definition.

3 (Original). The method of claim 2, wherein at least some of the components have events which can be either an action or a result, and further wherein control flow is defined at least in part by linking a result of one component to an action of a second component.

4 (Original). The method of claim 3, wherein certain components are contained within other components.

5 (Original). The method of claim 4, wherein the components have attributes.

6 (Original). The method of claim 5, wherein the process of defining data flow comprises the associating of the attributes of a component containing another component with the attributes of the contained component.

7 (Currently amended). A method of generating an enterprise application, comprising the steps of:

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(a) identifying a plurality of building blocks that define a workflow process, each building block being representative of a step in the workflow process;

(b) sequencing and connecting together the plurality of building blocks to create a workflow process model;

(c) defining at least one task to be accomplished within at least one of the building blocks, the task comprising a unit of work performed by a computer program;

(d) associating data with the at least one task;

(e) loading the workflow process model on a process server; and

(f) generating on the process server a client application accessible to users.

8 (Original). The method of claim 7, wherein each building block is comprised of at least one of a component and resource.

9 (Original). The method of claim 8, wherein the component is comprised of at least one of a container and an element.

10 (Original). The method of claim 9, wherein the container is comprised of at least one of a process, a task, a router and a controller.

11 (Original). The method of claim 9, wherein the element is comprised of at least one of a view, a join, a comparator, a timer, an assigner, a notifier, an action-launcher, an adapter and a locker.

12 (Original). The method of claim 8, wherein the resource is comprised of at least one of a business entity, a role, a user, a calendar, a decision criteria and a data controller.

13 (Original). The method of claim 7, wherein step (b) comprises graphically displaying the building blocks.

14 (Original). The method of claim 7, wherein the task comprises a unit of work performed by a computer program.

15 (Currently amended). A method of defining and implementing a top-down workflow process,

comprising the steps of:

(a) identifying top level process steps in the workflow process;

(b) selecting graphically displayed building blocks to represent each of the top level process steps;

(c) arranging and connecting the building blocks to create a top level workflow process model;

(d) determining which of the top level process steps in the top level workflow process model are amenable to sub-process steps;

(e) for each top level process step identified in step (d), selecting further building blocks to represent the sub-process steps and associating the thus-selected building blocks with the respective top level process step identified in step (d);

(f) associating non-control data with at least a portion of the building blocks;

(g) loading the building blocks and at least a portion of the non-control data on a process server; and

(h) running the top level workflow process model using a computer, including any associated sub-process steps.

16 (Original). The method of claim 15, wherein each building block is comprised of at least one of a component and resource.

17 (Original). The method of claim 16, wherein the component is comprised of at least one of a container and an element.

18 (Original). The method of claim 16, wherein the container is comprised of at least one of a process, a task, a router and a controller.

19 (Original). The method of claim 17, wherein the element is comprised of at least one of a view, a join, a comparator, a timer, an assigner, a notifier, an action-launcher, an adapter and a locker.

20 (Original). The method of claim 16, wherein the resource is comprised of at least one of a business entity, a role, a user, a calendar, a decision criteria and a data controller.

21 (Original). The method of claim 15, wherein the building blocks are graphically wired together.

22 (Original). The method of claim 15, wherein step (f) comprises mapping data.

23 (Original). The method of claim 15, further comprising modifying sub-process steps within a connected building block.

24 (Original). The method of claim 15, further comprising making the building blocks available to users via a process design server.

25 (Original). The method of claim 15, further comprising requesting a person having particular knowledge about one or more of the sub-processes to assist in selecting and arranging building blocks representative thereof.

26 (Currently amended). A system for designing and implementing a business process, comprising:

(a) a process designer tool having a graphical interface for defining a business process model in a top-down method, the business process model having

(i) at least one process having control flow defined between at least two components, and

(ii) at least one task having a definition, each task definition incorporating a user interface for performing the task and defining access to business data required to complete the task, the task comprising a unit of work performed by a computer program; and

(b) a process server capable of deploying the process model by following the control flow defined in the process and presenting to at least one end user the defined task via the user interface.

27 (Currently amended). A system for creating and implementing a process model for an enterprise, comprising:

a process designer comprising a graphical user interface used to develop components and resources and to define process flow and data flow among said components and resources, the process designer being capable of defining at least one procedure associated with at least one of said components and resources;

a process server for running the at least one procedure and for assigning tasks in accordance with a priority scheme defined in the process designer, the task comprising a unit of work performed by a computer program; and

a process client comprising a graphical user interface operable to allow end users to log on and connect to the process server, to access any assigned tasks and to perform said assigned tasks.

28 (Original). The system of claim 27, wherein the process designer presents a plurality of building blocks to a user.

29 (Original). The system of claim 27, further comprising a system administrator in communication with the process server.

30 (Original). The system of claim 27, wherein the assigned tasks are performed by a computer.

31 (Original). The system of claim 27, wherein the process designer makes developed components and resources available for use in other process models.

32 (Original). The system of claim 27, further comprising means for defining a common user interface among the components and resources.

33 (Original). The system of claim 27, further comprising means for mapping data between components, between resources and between components and resources.